

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of the subject patent application is respectfully requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Following the amendments, claims 6-8, 26-29 and 34 are pending in the application, with claims 6 and 7 being in independent format.

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the telephone discussion with their representative on May 15, 2006.

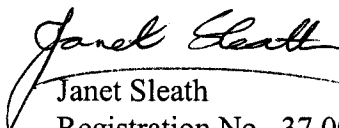
As requested by the Examiner during that telephone call, claim 6 has been amended to include the phrase "the polynucleotide sequence of", claim 7 has been amended to include the phrase "the amino acid sequence of", and non-elected claim 35 has been cancelled in order to expedite allowance of the remaining claims.

Applicants submit that support for all the above amendments may be found throughout the specification as originally filed and that none of the amendments constitute new matter or raise new issues for consideration.

A Request for a Two Month Extension of Time, extending the deadline for response to the final Office Action to May 15, 2006, is submitted herewith.

Should the Examiner have any further concerns regarding the subject patent application, he is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned at 206.382.1191.

Respectfully submitted,


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